

## Headlines:

Lower Mississippi River – towboat restriction;  
DOS – meeting re IMO PPR 3;  
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NOAA – smalltooth sawfish;  
USN – Great Green Fleet deploys;  
EP – EU seamen detained in India;  
EC – alignment of state aid to ports;  
Australia – waste reception facilities; and  
Australia – Bunkers Convention.

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# Bryant's Maritime News

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*Note: This newsletter is one section of the [Bryant's Maritime Consulting](http://brymar-consulting.com) website. Visit the site for more extensive maritime regulatory information. Individual concerns may be addressed by retaining [Dennis Bryant](mailto:dennis.l.bryant@gmail.com) directly. Much of the highlighted text in this newsletter constitutes links to Internet sites providing more detailed information. Links on this page may be in PDF format, requiring use of Adobe Acrobat Reader. Comments on these postings are encouraged and may be made by email to the editor or by going to the blog page on the website and clicking the envelope that appears at the end of each posting. Be aware that the daily newsletter is a single posting, even though it contains a number of individual items. One must never blatantly assume the existence of right triangles.*

## Lower Mississippi River – towboat restriction



A **bridge collision** [located at <http://www.uscgnews.com/go/doc/4007/2778526/>] on the Lower Mississippi River near Natchez and a **second one** [located at <http://www.uscgnews.com/go/doc/4007/2778498/>] near Vicksburg have resulted in the US Coast Guard issuing a directive restricting towboats from pushing barges under bridges between mile markers 363 and 438. (1/21/16).

### DOS – meeting re IMO PPR 3



The Department of State (DOS) issued a notice stating that an open meeting will be held on 10 February in Washington, DC to prepare for the upcoming session of the IMO Sub-Committee on Pollution Prevention and Response (PPR 3). Topics on the agenda include: ballast water sampling and analysis; impact on the Arctic on emissions of black carbon from international shipping; and on-board sampling and verification of the sulphur content of fuel oil. **81 Fed. Reg. 3856** [located at <https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2016-01-22/pdf/2016-01272.pdf>] (1/22/16).

### DOS – meeting re IMO NCSR 3



The Department of State (DOS) issued a notice stating that an open meeting will be held on 24 February in Arlington, Virginia to prepare for the upcoming session of the IMO Sub-Committee on Navigation, Communication, and Search and Rescue (NCSR 3). Topics on the agenda include: routing measures; establishing multiple structures at sea; recognition of Galileo as a component of the WWRNS; and harmonization of bridge design and display of information. **81 Fed. Reg. 3855** [located at <https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2016-01-22/pdf/2016-01275.pdf>] (1/22/16).

### DOS – meeting re IMO SSE 3



The Department of State (DOS) issued a notice stating that an open meeting will be held on 8 March in Arlington, Virginia to prepare for the upcoming session of the IMO Sub-Committee on Ship Systems and Equipment (SSE 3). Topics on the agenda include: on-board lifting devices and winches; dynamic positioning systems; and escape route signs and equipment location markings. **81 Fed. Reg. 3856** [located at <https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2016-01-22/pdf/2016-01273.pdf>] (1/22/16).

### NOAA – smalltooth sawfish



The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) issued a notice stating that it is initiating a 5-year review of the US distinct population segment of smalltooth sawfish. Comments must be received by 22 March. **81 Fed. Reg. 3781** [located at <https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2016-01-22/pdf/2016-01239.pdf>] (1/22/16).

## USN – Great Green Fleet deploys



The US Navy issued a **news release** [located at [http://www.navy.mil/submit/display.asp?story\\_id=92760](http://www.navy.mil/submit/display.asp?story_id=92760)] announcing deployment of the Great Green Fleet, otherwise known as the USS John C. Stennis Carrier Strike Group. The surface ships of the Carrier Strike Group are utilizing alternative fuel made from waste beef fat provided by farmers in the Midwest. The ships are also using other energy conservation measures, including stern flaps and LED lights. (1/20/16).

## EP – EU seamen detained in India



The European Parliament (EP) issued a **press release** [located at <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/news-room/20160115IPR10195/Human-rights-EU-seamen-detained-in-India-Ethiopia-and-North-Korea-nuclear-test>] stating that it adopted a resolution calling on the Government of India to release the 35 crew members of the MV Seaman Guard Ohio, including 14 Estonians and six Britons. The crew were arrested in the Indian State of Tamil Nadu in October 2013 and charged with illegally possessing weapons. The defendants claim to have been on an anti-piracy mission. The charges were rapidly quashed, but Indian authorities appealed, preventing the crew members from leaving the country. Earlier this month, the 35 individuals were sentenced to a maximum of five years 'rigorous imprisonment'. That action is now subject to appeal by the crew members. Parliament urges the Indian authorities to release all those concerned pending conclusion of the judicial process. (1/21/16).

## EU – alignment of state aid to ports



The European Commission (EC) issued a **press release** [located at [http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release\\_IP-16-124\\_en.htm?locale=en](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-16-124_en.htm?locale=en)] stating that it has taken action to require the Netherlands to abolish an exemption from corporate tax for its six seaports so as to align the regime with EU state aid rules. It has also proposed in two separate decisions that Belgium and France align their taxation of ports with state aid rules. (1/21/16).

## Australia – waste reception facilities



The Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA) issued a notice reminding ports and other stakeholders of the obligation to ensure that adequate

waste reception facilities are available to receive all waste streams that are generated on board ships calling at the port. **Marine Notice 5-2016** [located at <https://apps.amsa.gov.au/MOREview/MarineNoticeExternal.html>] (1/21/16).

## Australia – Bunkers Convention



The Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA) issued a notice reminding owners and operators of the application of the Bunkers Convention to Australia. **Marine Notice 6-2016** [located at <https://apps.amsa.gov.au/MOREview/MarineNoticeExternal.html>] (1/21/16).

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If you have questions regarding the above items, please contact the editor:

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